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AT MELGUND

(One of the residences of Cardinal Beaton)

Some fields, a burn, a little wood,
And there the castled ruin stood
In autumn rain and solitude;

I walked into the crumbling hall,
Where oft had walked the Cardinal;
A proud and cruel priest withal;

Who, for intrigue and faggot, paid
The price, at last, on Melvil's blade,
Unshriven and, for that, afraid;

"The warm, peaked beard, the furtive face,
The red robes, worn with sumptuous grace,
One half might see in this sad place!"

Said I; and as the words were said,
A great dog-fox the chamber fled,—
A sudden, sinuous form in red;

An evil thing, that leapt the wall
As silent as a leaf might fall;
The daws wheeled screaming. That was all.

PATRICK R. CHALMERS.

London, England.